U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney Eastern District of Arkansas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 23, 2009

CONTACT: Jane W. Duke United States Attorney 501-340-2600

COMPANY OWNER PLEADS GUILTY TO NOT PAYING EMPLOYMENT TAXES

LITTLE ROCK – Jane W. Duke, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and Christopher R. Pikelis, IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge, Nashville Field Office, announced that Jimmie W. Milam, 56, of Austin, Arkansas, pled guilty today before U.S. District Judge James M. Moody to two counts of failure to account for and pay over employment taxes to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Milam faces a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000 on each count when he is sentenced later this year.

"The duty to properly account for and pay taxes is an essential responsibility of our great society without which the governmental functions upon which we depend and insist would not and could not exist," stated United States Attorney Jane Duke.

Milam pled guilty to both counts of an Information that was filed for the plea hearing. According to the Information, Milam, owner of both Milam Contracting, Inc., and JWM, Inc., failed to collect and pay to the IRS more than \$152,000 in employment taxes from the two companies for the period of approximately June 2004 until December 2005.

According to the filed plea agreement, Milam admitted that the tax loss to the government was \$152,551.11.

"IRS Criminal Investigation is trying to get the word out to business owners that they have an obligation to withhold employment taxes from their employees' pay," stated Christopher R. Pikelis, IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge, Nashville Field Office. "We

realize the detrimental consequences that this type of crime has with the loss of tax revenue to the United Stated as well as the loss of the future social security, Medicare benefits, or unemployment benefits for the employees."

This investigation was conducted by IRS-Criminal Investigation Division. The case was prosecuted by Senior Legal Advisor Michael Johnson.

###